## WELLFLEET TAXATION AID FUND FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOMEOWNERS



# GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FISCAL YEAR 2017

Application for the Fall tax bill must be submitted by Friday, June 17, 2016 by 4:00 p.m.

Return by mail or in person to:

Town Treasurer, Wellfleet Town Hall 300 Main Street, Wellfleet MA 02667

Town Treasurer Phone: 508-349-0346 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm

All information supplied to the Committee will be held in the strictest of confidence and is not open for public inspection.

Application revised April 22, 2016

## WELLFLEET TAXATION AID FUND FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED FISCAL YEAR 2017

#### **APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

PURPOSE: This fund was established to provide taxation assistance for eligible elderly and/or disabled residents of Wellfleet with their real estate tax payments. The fund was authorized by vote of Annual Town Meeting, April 22, 2013, Article 9 (acceptance of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 60, Section 3D), with volunteer contributions from Wellfleet citizens.

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA for assistance from this fund are as follows:

- OCCUPANCY: Applicant must own and occupy the real estate in Wellfleet as his or her domicile, and must be either:
  - 1) the titled owner listed on the current property deed
  - OR 2) the primary beneficiary listed on a life estate trust of the property
  - OR 3) the primary trustee listed on a real estate trust.

"Domicile" is defined as the Applicant must live at this address in Wellfleet for at least 6 months, and hold title to the taxed property for a full year.

- CRITERIA: Applicant must be elderly or disabled.
  - "Elderly" is defined as a homeowner who is at least <u>55 years of age</u> on or before **January 1** in the fiscal year for which aid is being requested.
  - "Disabled" is defined as a homeowner who is not able to work due to illness or accident and is currently receiving benefits from one or more of the following programs based on a determination of disability:

Social Security Administration, SSI or Medicaid, Veterans Administration, Workers Compensation, Wellfleet Board of Assessors, or any other such program or agency providing public/financial assistance due to the disability, or other documentation of a comparable disability satisfactory to the Committee.

• GROSS INCOME: Total yearly gross income of Applicant(s), including Social Security, must be less than \$40,000 if single, or less than \$55,000 if married.

## WELLFLEET TAXATION AID FUND FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED FISCAL YEAR 2017

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- **APPLICATION FORMS** will be available at the Wellfleet Public Library, Council on Aging, Town Hall and on the Town of Wellfleet website: www.wellfleet-ma.gov
- **DEADLINE:** Applications must be delivered or postmarked no later than: **June 17, 2016 by 4:00 PM** and must be accompanied by all supporting documents.
- OTHER TAX EXEMPTIONS: We suggest you first avail yourself of the exemptions offered by the Wellfleet Board of Assessors which include exemptions for: Elderly / Widowed Spouse / Disabled Veteran / Blind / Discretionary Hardship / Tax Deferral For qualifying information, contact the Board of Assessors. Under no circumstances will the total exemptions combined with taxation aid exceed the total amount of your current tax bill.
- TAX DEFERRAL: A homeowner is NOT eligible for the Wellfleet Taxation Aid Fund if in a Clause 41A Wellfleet Property Tax Deferral.
- **PRIVACY:** All information supplied to the Committee will be held in the strictest of confidence and not be open for public inspection.
- **ADDITIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES**: In reviewing eligible applications, consideration will also be given to an applicant's overall financial situation as determined by value of other assets and personal property, living expenses, and unusual financial hardship.

•	RETURN WITH	COPIES	OF THE FOLL	OWING	SUPPORTING	<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>
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Completed Application Form (assistance is available through the Council on Aging)
Current Driver's License (or) Photo ID
Wellfleet Real Estate Tax and Personal Property Tax bills (most recent)
Federal Income Tax Return, include all pages (most recent)
Cover page of Property Deed (or) Life Estate Trust (or) Real Estate Trust (current)
Disability Benefits documentation (if disabled)

#### • MAIL OR DELIVER TO:

Town Treasurer, Wellfleet Town Hall, 300 Main Street, Wellfleet, MA 02667

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS**

- FALL: If taxation aid assistance is awarded in the fall, the applicant will be notified by mail, and the amount will be applied to the first half of the Fiscal Year 2017 tax bill, which will be mailed in the fall of 2016.
- SPRING: If taxation aid assistance is awarded in the spring, the amount will be applied to the second half of the Fiscal Year 2017 tax bill.